

CLEAR CALL COMES TO G. W. RICKARD

PEACEFUL PASSING OF PIONEER CITIZEN

Had Come to "Uncle Billy" While Seeking Renewed Health in Southern Climate—One of Medina's Best Known Residents.

The Sentinel regrets to have to record the death of one of Medina county's pioneer and well-known citizens and a resident of this village for more than three decades—Mr. G. W. Rickard, better known to his legion of friends as "Billy," because of the unfailing exuberance and buoyancy of his nature and the general feeling among those who knew him best that he must have drunk from the fount of perpetual youth.

Mr. Rickard passed from life at dawn of Friday morning of last week at Touro hospital, New Orleans, following a gradual period of failing health for the past two years. The immediate cause of death was mild carditis, or an undue dilation of the heart, the end coming peacefully a few hours after his removal from the hotel to the hospital.

Mr. Rickard left Medina last January for Chicago, where he joined his daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart M. Hamilton. While in the city Mr. Rickard was persuaded to spend a week in St. Luke's hospital for a special observation of his condition. At the time he was feeling unusually well and with Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton he went to New Orleans, believing that he would be better for the sojourn in the southern climate. Indeed he did seem to be benefited and it was not until the day preceding his death that it became apparent an ominous change was taking place.

The deceased was born in Canaan township, Wayne county, Ohio, Dec. 20, 1847, the youngest of eight children born to the late Peter and Eunice Rickard. The following year the family removed to Guilford township, this county, where the subject of this sketch resided until about thirty years ago, when he removed to Medina. On Dec. 12, 1872, he was united in marriage to Sarah Elizabeth House of Lafayette township. To this union were born three children—Mary Eunice, Nellie and Edna, the former two having preceded the father and mother in death. The mother passed from life April 4, 1914.

G. W. Rickard was a man of striking characteristics. He was peculiarly a type. Tireless in industry, the duties of life never dimmed his ardor for the legitimate pleasures and pastimes of the day, and it is probable that the great American game of base ball had no more enthusiastic devotee than he.

Mr. Rickard was a man of strong convictions, audaciously fond of expression, but withal considerate of opinions of others. Hypocrisy was no part of his nature, and he was devoid of ostentatious display. He had been successful in business, was sanely thrifty, but there are many of his friends to attest of his quiet benevolences and his readiness to respond in time of need or distress.

During his residence in Medina Mr. Rickard had been actively engaged in the commercial fertilizer business, and it may be said that he was something of a pioneer in this business in Medina county, having made a careful study of the chemical features of the product before it was generally adopted in this section, and was among the first to impress upon the farming community around here the importance of commercial fertilizer.

G. W. Rickard was not identified with a religious organization, but believed in and practiced the Golden Rule. He will be missed in Medina.

Funeral services will be held from the home on South Broadway on Friday afternoon of this week, Feb. 25, at 1:30 o'clock, conducted by Rev. H. P. Richards of Bellevue, a former pastor of the Methodist church and intimate friend of the deceased. Interment will be made in the cemetery at Lodi, beside the body of the wife.

MEDINA PASTORS WILL ATTEND STATE CONVENTION

Several churches of Medina county will send their ministers as delegates to the interdenominational pastors' convention in Columbus Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, March 1, 2 and 3. Pastors from this county who expect to attend the convention include:

Rev. Wallace H. Bryenton of Medina, Rev. W. H. Flickinger of Lodi, Rev. E. H. Thompson of Granger, Rev. D. M. Peoples of Spencer, E. E. Zechel of Wadsworth.

The convention has been called by the Ohio Federation of Churches as a step in preparation for the statewide interdenominational campaign of evangelism which is to be conducted this spring.

Sessions of the convention will be held at the First Congregational church in Columbus. The morning of the second day will be devoted to denominational group meetings. It is expected that 1500 ministers of 15 to 20 denominations will be present.

Churches have been urged to send their pastors as delegates to the meeting, paying all their expenses, on the same principle as a business firm, lodge or other organization sends its representatives to conferences. Attendance at the meeting, say leaders of the Ohio Federation of Churches, will increase the pastor's value to his church.

OFFICERS DISCOVER FUGITIVE IN ATTIC

Wanted in Detroit for Uttering a False Check

Ernest S. Jones, was arrested last Friday night at the home of his father-in-law, Frank Poton, two miles north of Valley City, by Sheriff Bigelow and Deputy Hange.

The arrest of Jones was made on a request from the police department of Detroit, who stated that Jones was wanted there for forgery.

Upon arriving at the house the officers were told by members of the household that Jones was not there. A search was made of the dwelling without reward. Believing, however, that Jones was there, a second search was made, this time with success. Sheriff Bigelow discovered Jones secreted between two joists underneath a pile of old clothing in the attic.

He was brought to Medina and placed in jail, where he admitted to the sheriff that he was guilty of the offense charged. He stated that he had been out of work in Detroit for some time and was without money, and that his straitened circumstances together with the delicate condition of his wife, were responsible for his divergence from the path of rectitude.

A Detroit officer arrived in Medina Saturday and took Jones back with him.

ORGANIZATION TO HELP BOYS AND GIRLS

Nearly every organization in the county that stands for all that will make future Medina better than she is today, was represented at a meeting held at the Farm Bureau offices, Saturday afternoon, Feb. 19.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss questions relative to the welfare of the young folks of Medina county. It was plainly brought out that any such program should be four-fold in its nature. The organization of boys' and girls' agricultural clubs was discussed.

As a standard for this work is employed a verse in the New Testament Luke 2:52: "Jesus increased in wisdom, and in stature and in favor with God and man." It will be noticed that in this verse the 4-H man was brought out, namely: Hand-social; Heart-religious; Head-brain; and Health-strong body. All are necessary for a boy or girl, man or woman, who desires to be a leader. Even though much time is spent along the lines of material things, such as good crops, live stock, etc., the main aim is the development of our boys and girls into leaders.

These agricultural clubs will not be organized in townships where the adults or parents are not interested. It will be necessary that some of the older folks assume some of the leadership and assist the boys and girls with their records, etc. The parents of those who join must be willing to stand back of their boys and girls and encourage them in every way.

The people in the following centers have asked that such work be started in their section: Brunswick, Liverpool, Leroy, Montville, Granger. The following projects will be offered this year: Poultry, food, corn, potatoes, pig and calf.

If you would like to have this important work going on in your township, call or write County Agent R. H. Halderson, Medina, and arrange a meeting with him. If sufficient interest is shown he will be glad to help you in every way possible.

BOYS INTERCEPTED ON TRIP TO COAST

Five runaway boys from Cleveland were rounded up near Valley City on Thursday of last week, a few hours after they had left the city on a B. & O. freight train for the first lap of a planned trip to Egypt, California.

At Lester, a few miles northwest of Medina, the boys left the freight and after mounting a hand-car and started back toward Valley City. Lester, by a railroad employee at Lester, the latter communicated with B. & O. offices at Cleveland and an investigator, J. C. Warrenfeltz, was detailed to get the boys. Warrenfeltz rode down the line on a B. & O. engine, and met the boys a short distance south of Valley City.

At sight of the officers the boys started to run, but were soon overtaken and brought to Medina. Probate Judge Vandusen, before whom the lads were taken, advised that they be turned over to the juvenile court of Cuyahoga county, and Warrenfeltz returned to the city with them Thursday night.

The boys gave their names as Causimir Schmering, 13, 5922 Pilon avenue; John Langar, 16, 3484 West 59th street; Joe Phleger, 15, 3403 West 50th street; Frank Doffner, 16, 3476 West 52nd street; Edward Bilek, 16, 3505 West 52nd street.

FARM DISTRICTS TO BE FORMED IN OHIO

Grouping of the 88 counties in Ohio into 22 districts in the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation authorized by changing the constitution at the meeting of the federation Feb. 3, has been completed, it is announced.

The 22 districts were chosen with respect to geographical proximity and singularity of agricultural interests. Each district contains four counties. Division No. 1, which includes the counties of Medina, Ashland, Wayne and Summit counties, will have as a delegate representative, Paul E. Elliott of Seville.

"PRINCE ANANIAS" TURNS UP IN AKRON

FALSELY CONFESSES TWENTY-THREE TIMES

David Dexter, Arch Liar Who Spent Two Months in Medina Jail, Re-decorates Old Lie in Springfield in Other City.

David Dexter, recently released from the county jail after weariness from two months of voluntary confinement, has bobbed up again, this time in Akron, under similar circumstances as accompanied his advent in Medina, altho somewhat more spectacular.

That Dexter as a liar is not only unique, but accomplished, and seemingly stands pre-eminent in his chosen profession, was again illustrated last Friday in Akron, when, under the pretext of sudden conversion he set members of a little church mission agog and enabled the police department of the city to bask for a few hours in the imagined glory of a great achievement for justice.

The following account clipped from an Akron newspaper of last Friday will be of interest:

The words of the Man Upon the Cross, re-echoed thru the centuries, touched the heart of a murderer and outcast in the little Union mission last night and sent a fugitive from justice back, smiling and happy to answer to a sensational robbery in New York.

David Dexter, 42, Boston, his face lined with care, last night confessed to the police that he robbed the Merchants Restaurant Co., New York, last December of \$2,170. In his confession to Rev. Sam Swain, head of the mission, he said another man was sent to Sing Sing for two years for the crime. The conversation and confession came after the fugitive heard Joe Hester, engineer at the Firestone Steel Products Co. preach. He made the confession in the mission office and asked that they call the police. He was kneeling at prayer when the officers entered and arrested him.

Today in city jail while the prisoner was waiting to be taken to New York to answer for the crime, he appeared to be happy. In strong, clear tones he told the story of his life of crime.

"I was in the army and navy for 13 years and while in the army in Georgia in 1911 fought with my captain in a room. I threw him out of the window and he was killed. I gave myself up. I was convicted of murder and was sentenced to Leavenworth for nine years.

"In February, 1920, I was released on parole and after the theft in New York I went to Chicago where my sister lives. I showed her the money and explained that I had won it gambling. She refused to believe me and turned me out. I learned that a man, Robert Hartley, of Brooklyn, had been sent to prison for the New York theft. I arrived in Akron last Monday and obtained lodging at the mission."

As the man was led from the room by the officers a chorus of voices followed him with "God bless you."

"I'm going straight now, and thanks for your help," he said as he walked with head bowed between the officers.

Dexter, it will be remembered, was the stranger who sought out Sheriff Bigelow last December, declaring that a stricken conscience had constrained him to surrender himself to the authorities for the commission of a crime for which another man was at that time serving a prison term in Sing Sing.

Dexter stated to Sheriff Bigelow that he had robbed the Merchants Restaurant Co. of New York city last fall of a \$2,170 payroll, for which his friend and benefactor had been convicted. He also stated that he had been an all-round bad man and had served time in Leavenworth prison.

A communication with the New York police brought Sheriff Bigelow the information that Dexter had made a similar confession in at least twenty-one different cities and that he was not wanted. The Merchants Restaurant Co. reported that they had never been robbed, and that Robert Hartley, the man Dexter declared was an innocent victim, was in the company's employ, and had never been under arrest in his life. Despite these reports Dexter stuck to his original story until he had tired of Medina, when he confided to Sheriff Bigelow that he had been "spoofing."

DEATH OF COPLEY WOMAN

Mrs. Caroline Edgar Hankey, aged 92, a resident of Copley since youth, died Monday evening after a stroke of paralysis, suffered last Friday. Mrs. Hankey never regained consciousness. Born in Pennsylvania, she moved early in life to Copley, where she married and raised a family of eight children, six of whom survive her.

Mrs. Hankey was in good health until her final illness, not only active in her own work, but in several organizations. Funeral services were held from the home at Copley this afternoon.

Surviving children are: John of Weston, James of Copley, Scott of Stony Hill, Mrs. C. H. Smith of Ghent and Frank and Mrs. Ida Taylor of Akron. A number of grandchildren and great grandchildren are also left.

MUCH STATE MONEY FOR MEDINA ROADS

SUCCESSFUL TRIP OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

Commissioners and Engineer Secure Promise of \$138,400 Toward Improvement of Four Highways on 1921 Program.

As stated in the Sentinel some time ago, County Engineer Bibbins has a substantial program for road building in the county this year, and a representative from the State Highway Commission was here recently to inspect the plans.

As to the extent the State would be willing to go in prosecuting the county road work has been a source of considerable anxiety to Engineer Bibbins, and to that end he and County Commissioners Leach and Scanlan arranged for a conference with the State Highway Commission on Wednesday of this week. The result of the conference was exceedingly satisfactory, and the financial aid guaranteed by the Commission for Medina county's 1921 road program is greatly in excess of Mr. Bibbins' most sanguine expectations, he says.

For the Akron-Medina road, between Lodi and West Salem, a distance of 3 and 90-100 miles, 10-foot concrete, the state will allow \$46,000. The estimated cost is \$92,000. Cleveland-Wooster road, 3 and 6-10 miles, 16-foot concrete, state's allowance \$78,000; estimated cost \$146,000. Paving of Main and Pleasant streets-Seville, 4-10 mile, state's allowance \$8,000; estimated cost \$28,000.

North Court street, north of Union, Medina, state's allowance \$6,400.

Thus it will be seen that a total of \$138,400 will be furnished by the state as a result of the conference between the Commissioners and Mr. Bibbins and the Highway Commission on Wednesday.

CAUSMAN CONVICTED OF BURGLARY AND LARCENY

First of Three Youths Indicted For Same Crime.

After deliberating one hour, the jury in the case of the State against Nick Causman for the alleged crime of burglary and larceny, returned a verdict of guilty Wednesday evening. The trial lasted two days.

Causman and two companions, Joe Smith and John Kallen, were arrested in Wadsworth on Nov. 24, two days after a Wadsworth hardware store had been broken into and robbed. When the men were searched a revolver was found on Causman which was identified as one taken from the store. Causman maintained that he had just purchased the gun from a stranger, and also sought to prove that he was not in Wadsworth at the time of the robbery.

Smith and Kallen also had guns and a black-jack when arrested. Dates for their trial have not yet been set. Causman had not been sentenced yet.

BILL FOR BUREAU OF CRIMINAL IDENTITY

Verbal clashes between members of the senate, in which Gov. Davis was quoted frequently, marked the passage in the senate last Friday of a bill by Senator Endley of this district to create a state bureau of criminal identification.

The bill if passed by the house will provide for the collection by the state bureau of criminal identification of photographs, finger prints and criminal records of all persons arrested for felony in Ohio and establish an exchange system between police departments and sheriffs of the state.

Senator William Miller, Muskingum county, sought to amend Endley's bill by placing the bureau under the supervision of the superintendent of Mansfield reformatory instead of creating a separate bureau. This he said was in the interest of economy and he quoted from Gov. Davis' inaugural message advocating economy.

A later amendment offered by Senator King struck out a civil service provision in the bill, leaving it outside of civil service. Majority Leader Whittemore speaking on the amendment condemned civil service. The King amendment was adopted.

HOLSTEIN BREEDERS ACTIVE

It will be of interest to the owners of purebred and grade Holsteins to know that a series of meetings are being arranged for Medina county. The purpose of these meetings will be the final cementing together of all Holstein interests in Ohio to make our State the leading Holstein state in the country. What organization and effort have done for others, it will do for Ohio.

Mr. H. C. Barker, Field Agent for the Ohio Holstein-Friesian association, will be present. Attend the meeting nearest you and bring at least one Holstein man with you:

Lodi, March 4, at 9:30 a. m.
Spencer, March 4, at 1:30 p. m.
Seville, March 4, at 7:30 p. m.
Medina, March 5, at 9:30 a. m.
Granger, March 5, at 1:30 p. m.
Brunswick, March 5, at 7:30 p. m.

Arrangements are being made for a meeting March 15 for all the men interested in the black and white cattle with a view of organizing a county association. This meeting will be held at Medina.

FREIGHT CAR BANDIT IN LODI HOSPITAL

B. & O. Detectives in Gun Battle Are Victorious.

Two men while breaking into a freight car of the B. & O. railroad near Nova, last Friday night, were intercepted by two of the company's detectives. The former opened fire on the officers. The latter returned the fire, striking one of the men in the shoulder and disabling him. The other robber promptly surrendered.

Both men were taken to Lodi, one to the hospital, the other to jail. As the affair occurred in Ashland county, the uninjured man was turned over to that county the following day. The men gave their names as Baker and Coe. Baker was the man shot. While his condition is said to be serious, it is believed he will recover.

FARMERS ENTERTAINED BY LOCAL KIWANIS

Last Friday was Farmers' day at the Kiwanis club luncheon, held at Church of Christ, and was the largest attended of any similar gathering in the history of the local club, one hundred and twenty-five, or thereabouts, being seated at the tables.

Nearly every member brought a farmer friend and the latter were from every section of this vicinity. Each member introduced his friend, telling something of the latter's business and achievements, the introductions being the vehicle for the interjection of much merriment.

The principal speaker was Mr. Arthur Young, vice president of the Guardian Savings & Trust Co. of Cleveland, whose subject was "Wills."

Mr. Young emphasized the great importance of every man possessed of property, much or little, providing for a legal distribution of the same while he is still living and in the enjoyment of his mental faculties, instead of leaving it for the state to dispose of after his death, when, if the estate be small, the cost of administration is likely to equal, or nearly so, the amount of the estate. The speaker made the startling assertion that 97 per cent. of men of property die without making wills.

Mr. Young also told of the great service provided by guardian and trust banks for estates left with them, and advised there be such a service in Medina.

Mr. Frank Pohling, secretary of the Mansfield Kiwanis club, was also a guest.

METAL PRODUCTS CO. MEETS WITH CREDITORS

The Spencer Metal Products Co., which like many other companies has been caught financially extended during the recent severe slump in business met with a number of its creditors in Cleveland on Wednesday of this week, and effected a plan whereby the company will be able to continue in operation. The plan will be offered for approval this week.

Mr. Bouthinon, president of The Spencer Metal Products Co., declared the company had brilliant prospects. He stated that, while the plant had been closed for several weeks, they but recently reemployed 45 men, which number must now be doubled as the demands for their product is steadily increasing. It was stated that the company had received orders in January amounting to \$70,000.

TUESDAY'S CONCERT

The second of the series of winter concerts being given by the Medina Community orchestra took place at the Methodist church on Tuesday evening, and was attended by a large audience.

Features of the concert were vocal solos by Mrs. Lucille Long and readings by Miss Naidine Motts, the latter of Cleveland. The work of both these talented women was of exceptional merit, and was enthusiastically received.

Taken as whole the playing of the orchestra was fully up to its usual good standard, altho there were some defects, principally in point of precision, not apparent in the previous concert. This may have been due to unfamiliarity of the players with Leader Beck's manipulation of the baton, this being the first concert that he gave his entire attention to directing instead of presiding at the piano. His place at the latter was efficiently taken by Frank Hobart at Tuesday night's concert. The third concert of the series will be given next month.

BECK TO LEAD BAND

A change in the leadership of the Medina band took place this week whereby John Beck succeeds Harry Lincoln as director. Judged by the success that has attended his efforts as director of the Medina Community orchestra, much may be expected from the band under Mr. Beck's leadership. Indeed Mr. Beck says he is already planning some innovations for the open-air concerts on Saturday evenings during the summer. Mr. Lincoln has held the post of leader acceptably for the past two or three years.

The siren recently installed at the fire station and which has not given satisfaction, was officially declared a failure at a meeting of the department held last Saturday. The Rochester, N. Y. company of whom it was obtained will remove it. Another one has been ordered from the Federal Fire Alarm Co. of Chicago, a representative having been here and taken the order on Friday. The new one will be installed at the same time the present one is removed, which it is believed will be in about two weeks.

COUNTY SCHOOLS TO DEBATE AND SPELL

CONTESTS OCCUR IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH

All High Schools of County Will Participate—Strife for Championship Expected to be Lively—Tentative Rules Follow.

Tentative rules governing inter-high school debates and the annual spelling contests have been submitted to the County Superintendent, C. B. Ulery by the committees of local superintendents appointed to consider methods of conducting these activities.

Inter-high school debates are being strongly recommended by school authorities as valuable features of the annual school program. Practically all the schools of the county district will participate this year.

The question to be debated is, "Resolved that foreign immigration should be prohibited for a period of five years." Debates will be held on the evening of March 18. Each school will prepare two teams. The affirmative team will debate at home. The arrangement makes it possible for a contest to be held in every high school the same night. Neutral judges are to be secured by the county superintendent.

The committee appointed to submit proper regulations governing debates are: Supt. D. Roy Virtue, Valley City; Prin. E. N. Drake, Brunswick; Supt. Paul J. Warner, Homerville. The tentative rules are as follows:

1. As soon as possible after the beginning of each school year a Literary Committee shall be appointed by the county superintendent to arrange with him a series of inter-high school debates and oratorical contests, between the various high schools of the county district.

2. Said superintendent shall submit to each high school under his supervision two or more questions for debate with a copy of these rules soon after above appointment. Each school electing to compete shall indicate its choice of questions when notifying superintendent of its intention to debate. The question preferred by the largest number of schools shall be selected for use in all contests.

3. The debates shall be triangular in form—the triangles to be arranged by the county and district superintendents from the list of schools elected to compete.

4. Each school shall select two teams, consisting of three members

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SPECIAL MUSIC SERVICE

The choir of the Congregational church, Miss Florence Sipher, director; Mrs. L. H. Randall, organist, assisted by Mrs. Babcock, violin; Miss Anna Bigelow, contralto; Alfred Danley, clarinet, and Leland Longacre, cornet, will give a musical service at the church next Sunday evening, beginning at 7 o'clock. The program follows:

Prelude—Finale, Op. 128 Faulkes

Processional, Hymn 183

Invocation

Anthem—"Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace" Demarest

Scripture

Prayer

Vocal Solo—"O Savior, Hear Me" Gluck

Hymn 294

Anthem—"Peaceful Around Us the Shadows Are Falling" Storers

Offertory Prayer

Offertory—"Reverie" Rogers

Mrs. Randall

Anthem—"The Good Shepherd" Barri

Women's Chorus

Violin Solo—"Liebes Scene" Herbert

Mrs. Babcock

Anthem—"Softly the Silent Night" Niedinger

Recessional, Hymn 31

Benediction

Postlude Lansing

CLASSES IN HYGIENE

The Home Hygiene classes being organized under the auspices of the Medina Red Cross, to begin March 1, are meeting with very satisfactory enrollment, says Miss Minnie Wells, Red Cross secretary. There still remain a few vacancies, however, which it is desired be filled quickly, as the first meeting of the Medina class will be held next Wednesday evening, March 2, in the basement of the Sylvester Library building.

It is requested that those who are joining the classes report to Miss Wells at Red Cross headquarters, paying the fee and obtaining their books before the first lecture.

DEATH OF JACOB FRENCH

Jacob French, aged farmer of Montville township, died Tuesday morning at his home one mile east of Poe. The deceased was 78 years, 7 months and 14 days of age, a native of Chatham, Ontario, where he was born July 9, 1847. He was a prosperous farmer, well known in the vicinity of his home, and a man who enjoyed the respect of all who knew him.

He is survived by a widow and two sons. Funeral services were held from the home on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock, and interment made in the Poe cemetery.